

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from waste water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate, the concentration of calcium bicarbonate being at least about 200ppm, wherein the waste water is defluorinated by ~~adding~~ using calcium carbonate to remove F from [[to]] primary waste water ~~containing HF~~, comprising the steps of:

adding calcium hydroxide to the waste water containing a concentration of at least about 200ppm of calcium in a form of calcium bicarbonate to cause the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5, the quantity of calcium hydroxide to be added ranging in 75 to 125% of the equivalent weight to calcium; and

removing the calcium by precipitation thereof in the form of calcium carbonate.

2 (canceled)

3 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1, in which the quantity of calcium hydroxide to be added ranges in 90 to 110% of the equivalent weight to calcium.

4 (canceled)

5 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1, in which the waste water contains about 200ppm to 500ppm of said calcium bicarbonate.

6 (currently amended): A method for removing calcium from waste water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate, the concentration of calcium bicarbonate being at least about 200 ppm, wherein the waste water is defluorinated by ~~adding~~ using calcium carbonate to remove F from [[to]] primary waste water ~~containing HF~~, comprising the steps of:

adding calcium hydroxide to waste water containing a concentration of at least about 200 ppm of calcium in a form of calcium bicarbonate;

10 said adding step including that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5; and

removing the calcium by precipitation thereof in the form of calcium carbonate.

7 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1, further comprising the step of

defluorination by adding calcium carbonate to primary waste water  
5. containing HF.

8 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from  
water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed  
according to claim 6, further comprising the step of  
defluorination by adding calcium carbonate to primary waste water  
5 containing HF.

9 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from  
water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed  
according to claim 6, in which the water contains said calcium  
bicarbonate of 200ppm or more.

10 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from  
water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed  
according to claim 9, in which the water contains said calcium  
bicarbonate of about 200ppm to about 500ppm.

11 (canceled)

12 (canceled)

13 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from  
water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed  
according to claim 8, in which the water contains said calcium  
bicarbonate of about 200ppm to about 500ppm.

14 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 1 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

15 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 3 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

16 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 4 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

17 (previously presented): A method for removing calcium from water containing a concentration of calcium bicarbonate claimed according to claim 5 in which said adding step comprises that the calcium hydroxide added causes the pH of the waste water to range from 8.5 to 10.5.

18-20. (canceled)